

President's Niece Declines the Honor

Miss Mabel McKinley, niece of President McKinley, has writ herself into history as unostentatious.

Whenever before has it happened in the history of the republic that a girl should refuse to be married at the White House?

Miss McKinley is a girl who has declined the honor.

To the cordial invitation of the president of the United States she sweetly said "No."

Had Miss McKinley accepted the invitation the marriage would have claimed the social position of a marriage of the daughter of the house.

The president and his wife have looked upon Miss Mabel for many years as a daughter. She and her sister, Grace, have tried to take the place left vacant by the death of Mrs. McKinley's two little girls.

As children they saw Washington life through the social position of a congressman from Ohio; as young girls they saw western society from the viewpoint of the

her wedding couldn't afford the trip to Washington and would see nothing of her, anyway, at so splendid a national affair.

Lastly, the feast would not be her own, but a diplomatic affair, where social precedence must be observed and the rank attended to and the file left out.

Such a decision as this from so young a girl bears the mark of good sense stamped all over it.

The president and Mrs. McKinley recognized the wisdom of her argument and will go to Somerset to see the marriage.

Stories Tersely Told

"On this point," said the old democratic wheelhorse, "let me quote from a speech delivered nearly forty years ago by that great and good man, Abraham Lincoln—"

"Please tell us," interrupted a squeaking voice pertaining to a man in the crowd, "what you said about that great and good

Maine. I'd just give anything in this world if I could have seen him walk down these halls of congress wearing that white plume."

Governor Stone was so astonished at this remark that he roused himself long enough to turn to his companion and say:

"Why, Mr. Blaine never wore a white plume."

But this seemed to make the westerner indignant and he replied:

"Oh, yes, he did. Did you never read about him being the 'plumed knight'?" Why, I have heard that whenever he walked down those halls of congress he not only wore a white plume, but carried a spear, just like any other knight."

An American, who had occasion to consult a prominent business man in Rio Janeiro, tells of his experience in a letter to the New Orleans Times-Democrat:

"Senhor Jose has not yet arrived," the head clerk would say, blandly, when I inquired for his principal.

"How soon will he be in?" I would ask, innocently.

"God knows, senhor," the clerk would reply, still untruffled.

"Then, perhaps, after calling five or six times, I would get desperate and a conversation something like this would ensue:

"Will Senhor Jose be here today?"

"Ah, senhor, I know not."

"Well, tomorrow, then?"

"Perhaps. Who knows?"

"But I want to make an appointment. Do you expect him any time next week?"

"It is possible, senhor."

"Oh! confound it! Will he be here this year?"

"He may, senhor."

Chicago Post: "Don't you believe in moral suasion?" asked the neighbor.

The indignant father stopped with the switch poised in the air.

"Of course I do," he answered. "I tried it once and I'm going to try it again as soon as I lick this boy hard enough so that he'll know enough to be ruled by it the next time I try it. Yes, sir; moral suasion is a great thing and I'm going to teach this boy how good it is if I have to whale the life out of him to do it. He doesn't appreciate its advantages yet."

Forging to the Front

Miss Sarah Flanagan is city clerk of Kingston, Ont., possibly the only woman who has ever attained to such a position in Canada.

Miss Alice Serber of New York is the first woman lawyer in that city to be admitted to practice in the United States district courts and the first to make a specialty of criminal law.

Miss Cora A. Wellman has been appointed by the New Hampshire supreme court as assignee to wind up the affairs of the Hinsdale Savings bank. She has been acting as treasurer of the bank and was recommended for the present appointment by the incorporators.

The only woman rabbi on record is Miss Rachel Frank, who had conferred on her this distinction by a Jewish church in San Francisco.

Mrs. Ruth Schaffner Etnier has been appointed by Dr. G. G. Groff the educational commissioner for Porto Rico, inspector of education for the district of Ponce, including over forty schools. Mrs. Schaffner Etnier is the first woman selected for such a position in the island.

Miss Belle Ashton of Sanford is the second woman to be admitted to the practice of law in Maine. She completed her examination in the supreme court at Alfred re-



MISS MARGARET GAYLORD OF LINCOLN, Neb.—MARRIED SEPTEMBER 5, 1900, TO MR. HENRY NEWTON WILD OF BUFFALO, N. Y.

cently and was admitted as a member of the York county bar. She was employed as a stenographer in a law office in Sanford and improved her spare moments by reading law.

Frau Maria Elizabeth Wentzel Herrmann is the first woman during the last 200 years to become an honorary member of the Berlin Royal Academy of Science. Frau Wentzel Herrmann some time ago gave the academy about \$5,000. One of the results of this gift is the new critical edition of the "Greek Church Fathers," of which two volumes have already appeared.

The ubiquitous "American dentist," held in the highest esteem the world over for superior professional skill, has already hung out her shingle in Manila and is finding abundant demand for her services. Dr. Anna M. Sawyer of New York is the woman who has taken the initiative in this instance.

One of the youngest notaries public in the country is Miss Kathryn Helmer of St. Louis, who is 20 years old and has held the

Chaffee's Family

Wandering among the flowering button bush and the ripening blackberries along the banks of the romantic Niantic river, with a frolicking child on either side of her, Mrs. Adna R. Chaffee may be seen any day, as happy and contented as she was when twenty-five years ago she crossed the plains with her husband to share the life of an army officer in Arizona.

None of the natives of the locality know that the brown-haired little woman who is staying at the Oswegatchie Inn, near New London, Conn., is the wife of the central American figure in the Chinese trouble. She is a strikingly young and attractive woman. The anxiety that the wife of a soldier always feels does not mark her face. The trying experiences of an army post have but sweetened and beautified her countenance. And this summer, while her husband is in China, she has retired to the loneliness of the Connecticut hills and is enjoying the restfulness of the region.

General and Mrs. Chaffee have two daughters and one son. The oldest girl was married two years ago to Lieutenant George French Hamilton of the regular army. The second child is Adna R., Jr., who is a bright and keen boy of 14 years and is full of the ambition to be a soldier.

The youngest girl is Helen, 12 years old, and a most lovable and interesting child. She has her mother's repose and her father's spirit. The result is a girl who is as full of fun and pranks as a kitten. She and her brother are at Oswegatchie Inn with their mother and it is a common sight to see them come in with their arms full of wild flowers and lips stained with wild fruit.

It is the hope of Mrs. Chaffee to some time retire to their home in Fort Riley, Kan., with her distinguished husband and to enjoy the society of the man who has been called away from her so often during the last twenty-five years.

Reflections of a Bachelor

New York Press: Every old maid's heart has a sign "To Let."

When a woman tries to be equal to man she makes herself unequal to woman.

The great advantage in understanding a woman is not having to pretend you do.

It's a funny thing that, though you often see a sad-looking woman, you never see a sad-looking cow.

You always get the worst of it with a woman. Whichever side of a bonfire you stand the smoke blows in your eyes.



ALLEGRETTO CLUB, FORT DODGE, Ia.—Photo by Louis R. Bostwick.

governor of Ohio; as a young woman in society Mabel charmed and warmed the hearts of diplomats and attaches from the proud position that would have been held by the daughter of the president of 70,000,000 of people.

When her engagement was announced the social and political world made its plans for a grand wedding at the executive mansion.

The day of Nellie Grant's wedding to Mr. Sartoris was recalled by Washingtonians and the young girls of the diplomatic set gave an idle thought to the kind of gown to be ordered for this historic affair.

But level-headed Miss McKinley said "No." With all due thankfulness she preferred to be married at her own old home in the country.

Aspirants to social fame have been gasping ever since her decision and the girls of the diplomatic set are still wondering how she could ever do it.

It has deprived them of a great social function and only has its redeeming qualities socially in that it will not call the diplomatic corps back to Washington in the middle of September, when the heat is apt to be severe.

The president was not able to swerve his favorite niece in her decision and his own relish for good sense displayed in any one made him appreciate the girl's decision.

She is quite as level-headed as her distinguished uncle and has a reason for every decision; like him, her reasons are given in a suave, peaceful manner, but they are entirely firm and built on a rock.

Her argument was this:

She was born and brought up in the little town of Somerset, Pa., and had spent all of her life outside the president's wing in that town. Her affianced husband also belonged there. His interests were centered in that town and it was there he would begin the practice of medicine.

There were many people they both knew and loved there who would never come to a great diplomatic wedding and yet would be hurt to feel that their little friend was married away from them.

All around the McKinley home at Somerset live people whom Mabel has known since childhood and these she wanted to be near her on her great day.

She wished to choose her bridesmaids from the girls she loved and not from the great social set of Washington.

She loved every room in her old home and had a hundred associations with it and memories of her engagement to the young man she loved.

Dozens of people whom she wanted at

man, Abraham Lincoln, nearly forty years ago."

Then arose loud and indignant outcries, reports the Chicago Tribune, and the ill-mannered person who had been guilty of the impudent and uncalled for interruption was unceremoniously hustled out of the hall.

"I am afraid," said the poet to the editor, "that you don't exactly grasp the depth of the ideas expressed in my blank verse."

"Perhaps not," said the editor. "They may be beyond my mental reach."

"I think you wrong yourself," said the poet kindly. "Let me test the point. Here is a line at random: 'She swiftly passed him down the silent way. And in her path a subtle perfume lingered.' There, that doesn't seem confused to you, does it?"

"Not at all," replied the editor briskly, "that's easy. You are simply trying to say that a gasoline automobile went down the pike!"

A friend of mine who happened to be in Las Vegas, N. M., relates Hal Reid, in the Denver Times, managed to make a blooming idiot of himself at the dinner table at the hotel, in the presence of several women.

He had been downtown and in pronouncing some names had been told that all words beginning with "J" were pronounced as beginning with "H," so when he had been invited to dine with a friend and several women he took the menu and in order to show his knowledge he ordered in a tone of thunder:

"Bring me some howl and helly."

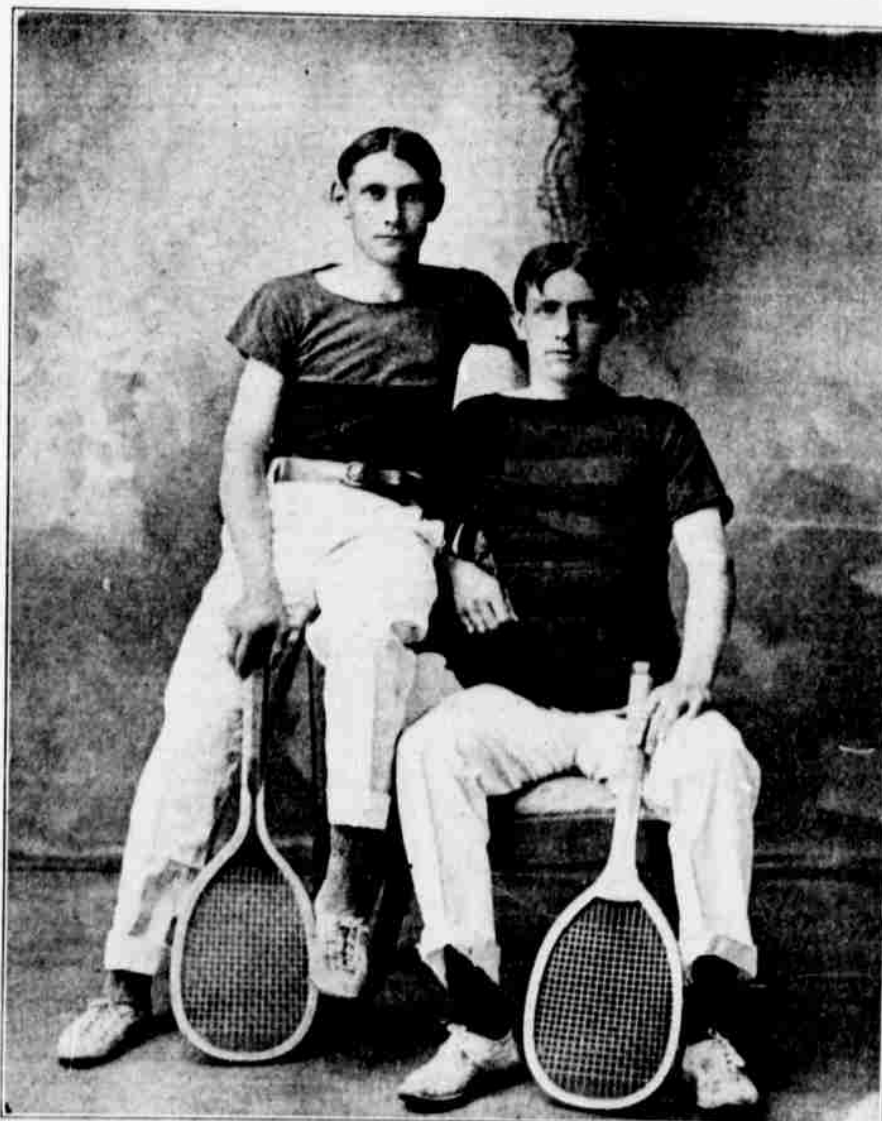
Which, of course, meant jowl and jelly.

Ex-Governor Stone of Missouri tells a story of an experience he had with a western politician whom he met on the train on his way from the Kansas City convention. Hot and worn out by the week spent in the Missouri town, ex-Governor Stone sought rest and quiet in a seat in the car next to an open window.

Just before the train started a typical westerner got in and took the seat beside him. The train had hardly started before this man began to try to open a conversation with ex-Governor Stone and began to talk politics. The democratic leader from Missouri had had enough of politics during the convention to last him for some time and did not encourage his companion to talk. But, nevertheless, the man ran on in his conversation, and from his talk ex-Governor Stone soon found that he was a great admirer of James G. Blaine.

"Did you ever see Mr. Blaine?" asked the westerner, and when Mr. Stone replied that he had, his companion said:

"The greatest disappointment of my life was that I never saw the great man from



Earle E. Farnsworth.

Isaac M. Raymond, Jr.

WINNERS OF TRISTATE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP AT SIOUX CITY—Photo by Hayden.